

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS
POLICY ON CONTINUATION OF GRADUATE FUNDING

In order to qualify for continued departmental funding, graduate students must demonstrate ongoing satisfactory progress toward the degree. Full details may be found in the section on ‘Assessment and Progress Toward the Degree’ in the Department’s Guide to Graduate Student Policies, Procedures, and Resources, but as a reminder the main points are outlined here.

Courses

All graduate students who are granted an incomplete in a course must finish the required work and receive their permanent course grade by the end of the following term: that is, the spring semester, for fall courses, or the summer, for spring courses. Failure to make up incompletes on this schedule will make a student ineligible for continued departmental funding.

MA

Students must complete all the requirements for the MA and be awarded the degree within two years of matriculation in order to remain eligible for departmental funding. Students should normally complete all the requirements in time to be awarded the degree in the May commencement, but in the following circumstances the August commencement is also acceptable. 1) Students who fail one or more parts of the MA exams may retake them during the summer. 2) In unusual circumstances, a student may petition to complete the MA thesis over the summer. Note that in order to graduate in August, all degree requirements must be completed by mid-July. Failure to be awarded the MA degree by August of the second year after matriculation will make a student ineligible for continued departmental funding.

PhD Exams

Students who fail one or more parts of the PhD exams must retake them by the end of the following term: that is, the spring semester, for exams taken in the fall, or the summer, for exams taken in the spring. Failure to retake exams on this schedule will make a student ineligible for continued departmental funding. Note that by Graduate School policy any student who fails an exam for the second time becomes automatically ineligible to continue in the program.

Students who become ineligible for continued departmental funding for any of these reasons may regain their eligibility by making up the deficiency: that is, by completing their course work and receiving their permanent course grade; by completing the requirements for the MA, being awarded their degree, and admitted to the PhD program; or by retaking and passing their PhD exams. The restoration of eligibility is not, however, an automatic process, but is decided by the Chair on a case-by-case basis. Moreover, semesters of funding that are lost for these reasons are not restored, but count towards the ten semesters of anticipated funding specified in the original offer letter. In other words, semesters unfunded because of deficiencies count as semesters of anticipated funding.

Students may petition for an exception to this policy, but should be aware that the Department will grant such petitions only in truly exceptional circumstances.